IRONDALE NEWSLETTER

Produced by the Bark Lake Cultural Developments

August / September 2021

Bark Lake Cultural Developments

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of
Minden Hills Council

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Some history of the Irondale Church, from notes in Wm. 'Bill' Witham's collection

St. John, the Baptist, Anglican Church, as it is now known, was built in 1887, by Charles J. Pusey, for the use of all denominations who lived in his mining village of Irondale. But in 1905, it was purchased by the Anglican Church of Canada and given its present name.

Although it was now on Anglican church property, it was used by the United church as well, on alternate Sundays through the late 1920's and into the 1940's. Now it is solely Anglican. It is a lovely, little, hip-roofed building, built of native pine, with a rounded ceiling a good 20 feet high. The original pine pews and clear glass windows remain. The church is painted white and nestles against a hillside of evergreens with a few deciduous trees to add colour in the fall. The hillside is a lovely backdrop both winter and summer.

But this is a history of the Irondale Church and so it is a history of people; for a church is people. Dedicated me and women have ministered in this congregation. In the late 30's Mr. Pelletier, a man of large girth, made the children smile, as he turned sideways to enter the pulpit. But his messages were listened to attentively by the youngsters. Mr. Wm Wrixon, fresh from England, had a lovely manner with the children and the young people ended up calling him "Uncle Bill".

Once I was at a reception in Teston the United Church minister asked me where I lived. I said, "In Irondale, but it's such a small place, you probably don't know it." "That's where you are wrong", he answered. "I know it well. Once I walked up the railway form Kinmount, to preach my sermon there." This man was Mr. Jenkinson.

Another United Church minister was Mr. Lehigh, who preached here on alternate Sundays from 1931 –1940. Others who have ministered were Anglican priests and captains, as well as layreaders.

Continued on page two

Generous Donations Received

We received some much appreciated donations this spring helping to relieve some of the stress of a 'no fundraisers' year. We thank all our donors - every dollar is important.

Bingo players and volunteers have made Canoe Radio's Tuesday night Bingo program very successful.

Roxanne Casey, Canoe's Station Manager states "We are so pleased that we are able to share our bingo money with other not for profit organizations which are doing great things in our community. Bingo is a great fundraiser, but the lottery regulations stipulate that we are only allowed to use bingo proceeds on broadcasting expenses which then gives us the opportunity to give money to other organizations that meet lottery requirements."

Donations have allowed us to have new eavestrough installed on the heritage building affectionately known as the Irondale Church and foundation work is next to ensure the building remains solid for the next few generations.

EVERY CHILD MATTERS
ORANGE SHIRT DAY
SEPTEMBER 30TH
Orange Shirt Day recognizes the harm done to generations of children by the Indian Residential Schools and is an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that every child matters. Orange Shirt Day also recognizes our commitment to reconciliation, anti-racism and anti-bullying in general.

Some History of Irondale Church, *continued from page one*

The following names of Clergy and Lay Readers serving the church:

1887	E. Soward	1906-08	H. T. Archbold	1950-53	L. G. McFarlane
1888-98	-----	1909	-----	1954-56	H. S. Shepherd
1899	J. E. Fenning	1909-10	T. A. Nind/Hind	1957-68	J. E. Mason
	L. W. Broughall	1911-13	Chas. E. Pratt	1969-70	J. S. Ball
	G. Egerton Ryerson	1914	C. P. Watson (L.R.)	1971-72	R. E. Sims
1899-01	J. E. Fenning	1915	E. G. Robinson	1973-74	J. M. Craig
	L. W. Broughall	1916	A. N. Hoath (L.R.)	1975-85	R. B. Brooks
	J. F. Rounthwaite	1917-23	G. E. Ferheller	1985-86	W. J. R. Ranson
1902	J. E. Fenning	1924-25	Hugh Collier	1986	Stephen Pessah
	R. B. Nebitt	1926	J. B. Bonathan/Banathan	1986-87	P. Thomas
	L. A. Trotter	1927-29	J. H. Stringer	1987-91	Dawn M. Gilby
1903	J. E. Fenning	1930	R. M. Weekes	1991-98	Brian D. Parker
	T. F. Summerhayes	1931-38	H. E. Pelletier	1988	Roy Shepherd
	G. I. B. Johnson	1939-41	S. A. R. Wood/Woods	1998-03	Mervyn S. Everall
1904	G. I. B. Johnson	1942-44	R. L. McLaren	2003-06	Ryscilla Sharp
1904-05	J. E. Fenning	1945-46	S. E. Richards	2006-10	Margaret Milne
1906-07	F. H. B. Cary	1946-49	Earl Sigston		

Other names found in old records are (no dates given):

A. W. Francis	G. Warren	L. J. Shives	I. M. McFarlane	J. T. Horton	J. J. E. Mason
P. L. J. Smith	H. G. Kingstone	Rob M. Withers	H. Marsh	F. R Coyle	J. J. Ball
J. S. Bell	W. A. Pepper	R. C. Blagrave	John H. Crozier	Frank Welch	R. E. Sims
J. B. Clarke	J. H. Stinger	A. Clarke	J. H. Scuse	A. S. Watson	John Coles
H. C. Dixon	Hugh Collier	Wm. Newman	E. R. Fairweather	Len F. Hatfield	A. U. Pouley
R. G. Wallace	R. M. Weekes	J. W. Donaldson	Gerald N Loure	E. Dacray	Charles Dobbin
E. A . Cumer	R. R. Bonis	J. Crawshaw	J. Welch	A. H. Cuttle	Miss Lois Phillips
P. B. Deham	H. E. Pelletier	Geo. B. Armstrong	S. E. Richards	J. S. Langstone	
E. F. Hackley	G. H. Johnson	Mr. Beverley	Wm. Bathurell	John H. Barclay	
Philip Watson	Geo. Gillespie	W. Simpson	L. Q. Dixon	Wm. Witham	
T. S. Bruce	A. J. Fortie	W. J. D. Smith	J. W. McDonale	R. S. Boyd	

We would love to have pictures of the people in both lists. If you have one, or know where they can be found, please let this newsletter editor know. It is all part of Irondale's history.

Bert Wallace
Kinmount, supporter of BLCD
died result of vehicle accident

~ ~ ~

Rosaline MacDuff
July 13, 2021
mother of Glenda Simmons

Condolences to family & friends.
Forever remembered, forever missed

Gunigle's Stage, Bobcaygeon to Minden

[*Lindsay*, Lindsay Expositor, *October 21, 1869*]

Royal Mail Stage

BETWEEN MINDEN AND BOBCAYGEON

The above stage leaves Minden every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning, at six o'clock, and arrives at Bobcaygeon at 12 o'clock, noon.

Returning, leaves Bobcaygeon every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 12 o'clock, noon and arrives at Minden at 6 o'clock p.m.

Fares reasonable. Parcels at the owners' risk unless booked and paid for

Bryan Gunigle, Proprietor.

THOMSON'S STAGE, MINDEN TO HALIBURTON

[*Lindsay*, Lindsay Expositor, *October 21, 1869*]

Thomson's stages

Leave Haliburton for Minden every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 6:30 a.m., Returning the same day.

Comfortable conveyances and fares moderate.

Copied verbatim from "Muskoka and Haliburton 1615—1875, A Collection of Documents"

Unprecedented year calls for something radical.

Five athletes decided to try something radical this summer and test the limits of their swim endurance. Led by life-long cottager Heather (Stuart) Maclachlan and ranging in age from 35 to 52 yrs, these women and their pink t-shirted support boats braved the early hours to meet the challenge of swimming Salerno Lake end to end – and back!

At 10.8 km, all five swimmers were able to complete the roundtrip - it was by far the longest swim distance for all of them. Utilizing rest stops at each kilometre mark to hydrate and refuel, all the women had a swimming time of under 4 hours.

The water and weather conditions were perfect, and our community of cottagers came out in full swing to cheer them on from their docks and boats. With coffee's in hand and pj's still on, our community gave these athletes that extra shot in the arm they needed to keep going and achieve this goal.

Special thanks to Kevin Pepper for his amazing photographs, and Kim Stuart who was Heather's support boat.

Submitted by Heather Maclachlan Pictures by Kevin K. Pepper

An Early Settlers Account of his Winter in Dysart Twp—Feb 29, 1864

"I took one of their lots and commenced chopping when after clearing an acre I was informed I had been clearing on an acre which was another man's ground. After staying 6 weeks I returned to Port Hope and not being able to do better we all started again for the Backwoods the Railway bringing us to Lindsay 40 miles the first day then by steamer the next day 20 miles to Bobcaygeon the remaining 40 I can scarcely describe for if any road was ever made purposely to upset the passengers the Bobcaygeon must be the one. I am happy to say we arrived safely without any accident on the 3rd day of October.
We had to build a log house and come into it at Christmas when the cold was so intense that the cups and saucers froze hard together whilst we were drinking our tea ...

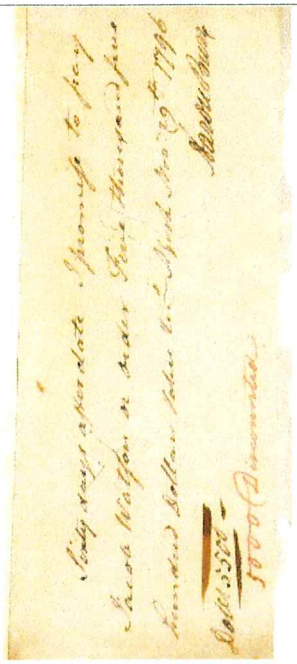
I have had my fingers frozen whilst out chopping and this is nothing uncommon, for fingers and toes should be well wrapped up but people in this country do not wrap up their bodies in great coats as they do in England except when travelling for with the most intense frost we have the most beautiful sunshine and no rain, but it would be impossible to live in this country without fires in the night as it is quite common for the breath to be frozen on the blankets. But with all these drawbacks and a few others which I have not mentioned we are all much pleased with the general features of the country ...

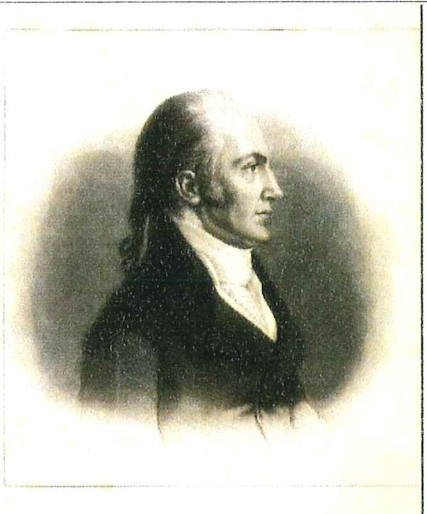
Our fare has been of the plainest descript it has rarely ever varied from bread, pork, potatoes and tea without butter, sugar or milk. I only know of one milch (milk) cow and one horse in the whole 10 townships consisting of 250,000 acres.

A. Parsonage

Editor's note: This was a copy I had filed years back - and neglected to make note where the article had been found. It is copied verbatim tho' I did put the word Milk in the last line.

We are meeting soon to start planning for a full calendar of events for 2022. Page 8 has the usual events listed. It is our hope the October/November issue will carry the entire calendar of 2022 events with dates supplied. It will be so good to see you again.
We have missed the laughter and the conversations.





In Between the Pages

In a book you may find a bookmark, a leaf, or even a scrap of paper. For digitizers at the Internet Archive, finding a 225 yr old promissory note from Aaron Burr took the cake.

At the Digitization Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana, scanners found an IOU penned in 1796 by Aaron Burr stuck in a book. Aaron Burr, served as Vice President to Thomas Jefferson and famously killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel. Now he's also known for leaving behind a pile of debt.

**if you read used books - be on the look out for any inserts - never know what you may find.*

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING SLOWLY

If you have **food** in your fridge, **clothes** on your body, a **roof** over your head, and a place to **sleep**, you're richer than **75%** of the **entire world**.

If you have **money** in your wallet, and can go **anywhere** you want, you are among **18%** of worlds **most wealthy** people.

If you are **alive** today and **healthy**, you are more blessed than the **millions** of people who will not survive this week and **die.**

If you can actually **READ** and **UNDERSTAND** this message, you are more fortunate than the **3 BILLION** people in the world who are blind, deaf or illiterate.

Life is not about complaining.
Life is about thousands of other reasons to be grateful and happy.

Happy 50th Anniversary to Tom & Dorothy Lee

A Bit of History courtesy of the late Grenville Schrader

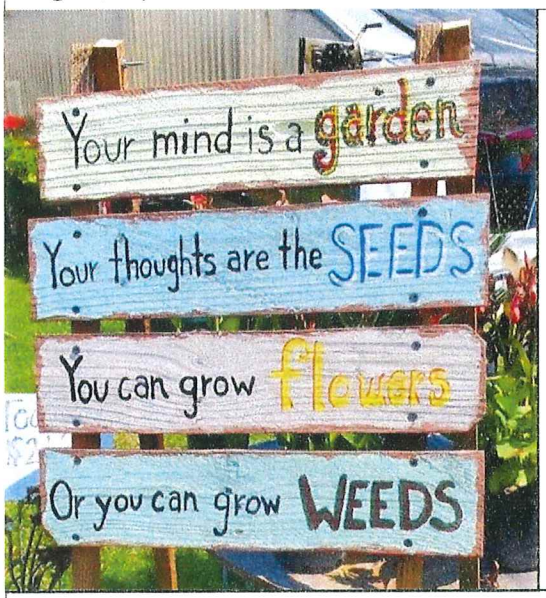
This email came to your editor in late 2009 or 2010. Bits of the history have been used in previous newsletters, tho' I felt the email in its entirety was interesting.

"Thank you for the recent copy of the latest newsletter! I was surprised to see that one of Michael J. 'Mike' McAlpine's children had travelled to Irondale to meet with your committee. I knew 'Mike' McAlpine as the Snowplow Foreman who ran the snowplow from Bancroft to Howland Junction! My father would sometimes walk north to clean crossings and check for ice on the rails in 'cuttings', then catch a ride home on the snowplow. On one occasion I remember that the snowplow was derailed by ice over the rail and Mike McAlpine road it to the fence. "It must have been quite a thrill as you sat in a cupalo above the plow so you could see to lift & lower the snowplow blade which also cleaned between the rails besides retractable wings to wing back the snow wherever possible.

We lived in Irondale in 1942/43, so know a lot of the older families. Margy (Dexter) Swanton is no stranger to me as I knew her father Jim Dexter - worked with Ken and Grenville Graham in Crego's Lumber Camp on the Reed Rd back of Kinmount in 1946. (I am fairly certain Margy's mother was a Graham, Ken & Grenville would be her uncles.) I remember Margy arriving in Kinmount when she was about 14 years old to attend High School. I was in the CNR Railway Station training as a Telegrapher and Agent!

I remember Percy and Margaret Proctor & their son Wm (Bill). Bill had a 1934/35 Ford Convertible 'Roadster' with a rumble seat which he stored in his father's barn when he went overseas - WWII. Percy was not only the Storekeeper but also the Postmaster, handled the mail between the Post Office and the train station at Irondale. On a rare occasion, he would get Bill's Roadster out to drive it to the Station. (which was a BoxCar with a waiting room & a freight shed for storage of Prepaid LCL (less than carload) freight. Frank Sprung was the Train Agent and handled the Baggage/Express/freight and the billing etc.

continued on page 5



Rods, Poles, and Chains

By David A. Norris, regular contributor to Your Genealogy Today, Internet Genealogy and History Magazine.

Surveyors in the U.S. used a unique set of English-based measurements. A basic unit, of 16 ½ feet, was variously called a rod, pole, or perch. Four rods, or 66 feet, made one chain. This unit was measured with a device called a Gunter's chain, consisting of 100 interlocking metal links.

There was clever logic in choosing a 16 ½ foot length as the basis of a system of measurement. Ten chains, or 660 feet, was one furlong. Ten furlongs or 80 chains comes to 5,280 feet, or one mile. That figure is also divisible by three (1,760 yards). One acre is ten square chains.

Rods and poles left many traces in U.S. history. Strong whiskey was called "forty rod", because it was said opening a jug of it could knock down a man forty rods away!

Duke of Gloucester Street, the famous broad thoroughfare of Williamsburg, Virginia, is 99 feet wide. Why didn't colonial surveyors round it up to 100 feet?

Because it was surveyed as six poles in width, which came to 99 feet.

Editor's Note: For more of these tips, sign up for the free e-mail newsletter from Internet Genealogy and Your Genealogy Today. https://internet-genealogy.com/index.shtml

Surveyor's chain used to establish horizontal distances along compass sight lines.
One link equals .66 ft. or 7.92 inches
One chain equals 66 ft. or 100 links

By Roseohioresident - Own work, Public Domain, https:// commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=11308680

People seem to be enjoying the Trivia -

1. Toronto's Centennial Centre of Science & Technology is better known as?
2. How many Olympic medals did Canada win at the 2016 Rio Games?
3. What basketball legend was called 'His Airness' among other nicknames?
4. Who has the most home runs in Blue Jay history?
5. What former Maple Leafs player was 1991 and 1993's NHL goalie of the year?
6. True or False. The human body's right lung is slightly bigger than the left lung?
7. After the skin, what is the body's next largest organ?
8. What elastic tissues connect bone to bone in the body?
9. What Bill's quarterback was offensive player of the week 3 times by Dec 2020?
10. How many brothers of Houston Texans' J. J. Watt also play in the NFL?
11. True or False, A koala is a type of bear?
12. Who won the 2020 Masters Tournament of golf?
13. Is the North Pole or South Pole colder?
14. Who was the first Black men's singles player to win Wimbledon?
15. Where did Mike Weir win the Master's in 2003?
16. CFL's coveted 'Cup' is named after what Governor General?
17. In golf, what are '3 under par scores' called?
18. Which Raptor signed a four-year, $85 million deal in 2020?
19. What team does P. K. Subban's brother Malcolm goal tend for?
20. How many Super Bowl wins does Quarterback Tom Brody have?
21. What extreme sport allows athletes to run on top of water in inflatable orbs?
22. What Blue jays player's father, first name Dante, was an MLB outfielder?
23. What sports team was known as the Toronto Arenas from 1917- 1919?
24. What team did Serge Ibaka of the Raptors leave Toronto to join?
25. What type of sports ball is usually red leather with white seams?

Answers in the next newsletter.

www.IrondaleOntario.ca

www.Facebook.com/IrondaleOntario.ca

A Bit of History cont'd from pg 4

In the summer, age 13 yrs, I worked for two spinsters - the Rumble sisters - who had a tourist home. I helped kill & pluck chickens, garden & clean vegetables, split & carry wood, I carried two pails of fresh water for lunch with a wooden 'yoke' on my shoulders from a good spring fed well about an 1/8 of a mile distance. I got the sum of $2 per week. I believe they were sisters to Mrs. Margaret Proctor. They had a niece 'Jane' who used to spend time with them in the summer and I think she may have got the place as a legacy when her Aunts passed on.

There always seemed to be something going on in the summer time when the camps opened on the Lake! I am sure a lot of people can contribute some very interesting stories for your Irondale newsletter."

**copied verbatim*

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ADVERTISING
$60 a year — 6 issues

Thank You
Gerard Klompmaker
for keeping the furnace clean & running efficiently at the heritage building, known as the 'Irondale Church'

Irondale newsletter currently reaches 100 postal addresses and 449 email addresses; the numbers are always increasing.

THANK YOU TO KINGSLEY GREENHAM FOR KEEPING THE GRASS CUT AT 1019 ELM RD
Much appreciated.

Irondale Events advertise in these local papers - available at most stores across the county.
THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY
The Times MINDEN ONTARIO
County Life

Words & Phrases - What do they mean / Where did they come from?

'Once in a blue moon' - The blue moon is the second full moon in the same month. Two moons in the same month can occur in any month - except February. The full moon on August 22/23 of this year is a seasonal Blue Moon.

Boiler suit - We commonly refer to coveralls and overalls ... the one piece garment we wear to keep our clothes clean. Overalls have a bib & braces design. Coveralls - the boiler suit covers the body except for hands, feet and head.

Cowboy Steaks - refers to rib-eyes cut with bone-in, sliced from the rib primal of a cow with the bone attached.

Girdling - also referred to as ringbarking. This involves the complete removal of a strip of bark from around the entire tree. This action causes the tree to start to die. It cannot heal the 'wound'. Foresters use this technique as a way of thinning forests. Orchard owners use it as a way to yield larger fruit.

Nurse Tree - is a larger tree that grows faster and shelters a smaller slower growing tree.

Root Flare - this is the spot where the main trunk of the tree meets the roots. If this area is covered with soil - the tree will smother.

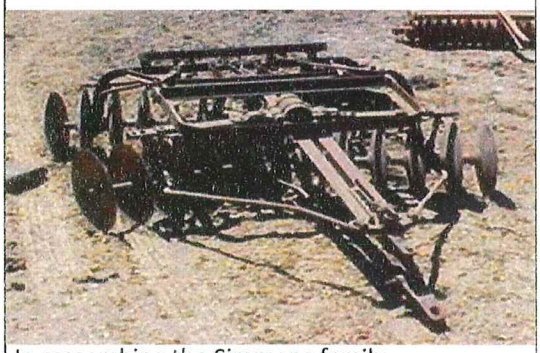
Salt Box House - a wooden house with one storey in the back and two storeys in the front. This mimics the old lidded box that salt used to be kept in. These homes are traditional to the New England area in the United States.

Truth Window - is a small window built into a straw bale building. This allows people to peek at what is behind the plaster and décor. Visit the Minden Cultural Centre's straw bale building and see a Truth Window up close.

Water Dowsing - also known as water witching. An individual holds a forked stick, rod or pendulum and walks slowly to locate underground water. My maternal grandfather and my husband are both excellent at witching water.

This process is generally used to locate perfect spots for well drilling, however I have seen it used to locate sewer pipes on a commercial property.

Harrow - consists of many spikes, tines or discs. This implement was dragged across the soil to smooth the plowed fields.



In researching the Simmons family - I found that three of the ancestors buried in Saskatchewan have harrow discs as tombstones.

James John Simmons 1840—1921 ←

his grandson below

William John Simmons 1919—1921 →

Mary Ann McLean 1892—1919 ← and her son Norman 1917-1919

Irondale's Family Harvest Festival

Saturday Sept 18, 2021

11am to 4pm

FREE ADMISSION

1019 Elm Rd

Informative & Interesting Displays - Food Booth

Children's Games & Crafts - Vendors - Books

Recently saw on Facebook

Always make sure SOMEONE in the relationship has good credit. That's why it's called SIGNIFICANT other. Sign/if/I/can't.

Follow me for more marriage tips.

Sallyann Phillips ▸ Writers, Readers and General Tomfoolery
July 5 at 5:04 PM ·

~ Irondale Calendar of Events ~

Hang this page on your refrigerator or next to your calendar so you don't miss out!

2021	**Unless otherwise noted -** **Tickets available online at www.IrondaleOntario.ca or call/text 705-457-8438**
Sat. Sept 18	**Family Harvest Festival** - 11 to 4pm - Vendors, BBQ, displays, tours—all on the property of Irondale's historical church building. NO ADMISSION CHARGED. *B.L.C.D. event*
2022	
Sat. Feb	**Dinner** held at the Irondale Community Centre. Dinner served from 5pm to 7pm Menu - Sounds delicious. *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sat. Apr	**Wilberforce Maplefest** Event All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast and lots of shopping with the local vendor tables. 9 am to 2 pm. Wilberforce Community Centre, in the heart of Wilberforce.
Sat. Apr	**Fish 'N Fowl Dinner** held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm. Dinner at 6pm. Fish, turkey, potatoes, vegetables, salad & dessert. Loonie auction action after dessert. $20 pp *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sun. Jun	**First Church Service** - visiting Minister expected. 10 am. Come as you are. **Book Nook Opening** - 11 am to 1 pm - no charge so help yourself to refreshments, books, videos, puzzles ...
Sat. July or	**Concert on the Lake** - Great music from the comfort of your own boat, canoe or paddleboard. Music starts at 6:30pm Check *www.sdlca.ca* for more details.
Sat. July	**Wild Game Dinner** - Popular dinner, held at the Gooderham Community Centre. Doors open 5pm, buffet at 6pm. All game served as bite size pieces, you can sample it all. Remember bring loonies for after dinner fun. **PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION FOR THIS DINNER** *B.L.C.D. event with proceeds supporting Irondale's history.*
Sat. Aug **Sun. Aug**	Salerno Devil's Lake Cottage Association's AGM 10 am at the Irondale Community Centre SDLCA Canoe Race, BBQ and Children's Games check www.sdlca.ca for more details.
Mid August	**Irondale Inspirations** - the artists that call Irondale home will be showcasing their work at the historical Irondale church. 10 am to 4pm. Please drop by, enjoy their talents. You may just catch one or more of them creating on site.
Sat. Sept	**Family Harvest Festival** - 11 to 4pm - Vendors, BBQ, displays, tours—all on the property of Irondale's historical church building. NO ADMISSION CHARGED. *B.L.C.D. event*

PLEASE FOLLOW US *www.facebook/IrondaleOntario and VISIT* OUR WEBSITE *www.IrondaleOntario.ca*

Irondale Events are advertised in these local papers - available at most stores across the county.

THE ECHO HALIBURTON COUNTY

The Times MINDEN ONTARIO

County Life Celebrating arts and culture in the Haliburton Highlands